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\$1.50 A YEAR

Cultivation Implements

Thorough cultivation of Florida soils is an effective means of increasing crop yields. In many cases the success or failure of a crop depends on the cultivation during the period from first plowing to harvesting. Farm lands in Florida would be more productive if the moisture supply were controlled by judicious cultivation. Soils that were deeply plowed early in the season and have a liberal supply of humus have sufficient moisture now stored up to produce a good crop yield, even little or no rain should fall between planting and ripening, provided the moisture is not unnecessarily permitted to escape by evaporation or taken up by weeds.

Permitting grass and weeds to grow into sod, and then plowing the middles out with a turning plow, is almost sure to result in a low yield of corn. The scooter plow or one-horse plow is not suitable for cultivation. The ordinary sweep or small shallow working tool is better, but will not do enough work per day. One of the most useful implements is the adjustable weeder. It costs about \$12. It is light, and one horse can haul it. When working over the crop (not between the rows), it should cultivate from 8 to 10 acres per day. It can be run over corn, cotton, sweet potatoes, some vegetables and even winter pasture crops. All the surface should be cultivated right up to the plants. This can be repeated until the plants are two feet high. Then the weeder can be adjusted to run between the rows, until the crop is made. If this is done regularly once a week, little or no hoeing will be necessary.

A light smooth harrow will answer a similar purpose until the plants are twelve inches high, if the teeth are set so as not to tear up the crop.

The surface two-horse cultivator with knife-like attachments working like sweeps does excellent work. It is adjustable to any width or row, and is made to work shallow. It is light, and will cultivate six to eight acres a day. It costs about \$15. It straddles the row and cultivates one-half the middles on both sides.

A riding two-horse cultivator would be a good investment for any farmer with 25 or more acres in cultivation, providing the land is mostly cleared from stumps. These machines are equipped with levers and adjustments making it possible to run between any width of row or cultivate to any desired depth. Six or eight acres per day can be cultivated when the rows are four feet apart. The machine will cost about \$45.

For a larger farm a better tool is the double two-horse riding cultivator. It cultivates the entire middle of two rows, will cover from 14 to 17 acres per day. It has various attachments and will cost about \$55. Such machines have many uses.

The Diverse Spring Tooth Cultivator is especially good for keeping down Bermuda or nut-grass in cultivated crops. The long spring teeth will cover most of the grass they fail to tear out, and if the

grass is kept below the surface the roots will soon die. The implement has two sections with a lever for each. When cultivating between rows, if it is desirable to throw some dirt up to the plants the levers are thrown backward, while to throw the dirt to the middle the levers must be shifted forward. The cultivator is also equipped with fenders, so that the row may be straddled,

WORLD WIDE CAMPAIGN

For the Protection of Migratory Birds Sentiment Developing

When Congress passed the Weeks-McLean law to give Federal protection to migratory birds throughout the United States, it was winning only a skirmish in a campaign that will soon be worldwide. The next step is international action in behalf of certain species of birds that are in danger of becoming extinct. Senator Root has already introduced a resolution requesting the President to propose to other American countries that they join in negotiating treaties to protect migratory birds.

Even in Europe, which in some respects is behind our country in such matters, there is new interest in the movement to protect birds. In a recent address in London, Lord Curzon made a strong plea for better laws to preserve the song birds and the insect-eating birds of Great Britain, and also for laws to regulate if not wholly to prevent, traffic in the skins and plumage of tropical birds.

He pointed out that this traffic, of which London, Paris and New York are the great markets, will soon result in exterminating the birds of paradise of New Guinea, the white egret of China and other lands, and the beautiful humming birds of Brazil and the West Indies. In three of the six sales held in London in 1911, no fewer than 20,700 birds of paradise were sold. The same sales included 120,000 specimens of the egret, and 41,000 humming-birds. The same destruction is in store for many other beautiful species that, every year are killed out in vast numbers to tickle the vanity of women.

The laws that Lord Curzon suggested go to the root of the matter. So long as the law permits women to wear the skins and feathers of birds, men will deal in them and there can be no effective way to guard the species. Those who profit by the traffic will fight the proposed legislation. But if the European and American women of wealth and fashion would only heed Lord Curzon, how prompt and far-reaching the victory for the birds would be!

There is some excuse for the poor peasant of southern Europe who, to satisfy his hunger, kills a nightingale or a warbler. There is no excuse for the women who encourage the slaughter of birds to adorn themselves—a slaughter all the more wicked because in many cases the plumage that is desired can be got only at the nesting season, when the killing of the old birds means the starving of the

cultivating both sides at once, and the dirt thrown to the plants or away from them as desired.

The mulch harrow does good work, especially when crops are nearly mature. The tooth bars are slightly curved downward so as to conform to the rows. The lever adjusts the angle of the teeth so that they run quite deep when it is thrown forward. By shifting the lever backward the implement becomes a smoothing harrow, and breaks only the thin crust on the surface. It has about sixteen teeth, arranged as with the ordinary smoothing harrow. The cost is approximately \$7.

The ordinary one-horse cultivator, used mostly in vegetable fields, does good work in tall crops working between the rows when the crop is about mature. The best of these machines are equipped behind with rake-like attachments to smooth the ridges made by the cultivator feet, and drag out or bury the grass and weeds.

Most riding cultivators have various attachments suitable for different crops. One of the most useful of these is the three disk attachment, especially in making beds for sweet potatoes. If after making the beds they are still too flat, the disks may be set to throw the soil higher when going over the beds a second time.

The same disk cultivator can be used for cultivating the beds after the plants are growing, or for running over the sides of the bed with these disks, and then reversing on the same row so as to force the loose soil back. (The fender attachment between the plants and inner disks prevents covering the small plants.) This can be repeated until the plants have made a considerable growth.—A. P. Spencer, Florida Experiment Station.

IMMENSE PREPARATIONS

Chattanooga's Plans for Entertaining Confederate Veterans

In commemoration of the bloody battle at Chickamauga 50 years ago Chattanooga announces perfection of the plans for entertainment of the United Confederate Veterans and the Sons who will hold their 23rd annual Reunion May 27-29. High officials of the G. A. R. state that Chattanooga's expenditures for entertainment and amusement, etc., will be on a more lavish scale than was ever necessary for their meetings, even surpassing the high water mark at Los Angeles.

It is expected in Chattanooga that upward of 12,000 veterans will be tendered free lodging and meals at Camp Alexander P. Stewart. Some fellow with a love for statistics has figured that this means the service of 144,000 free meals in the course of four days. The requisite number of Government tents and cots have been loaned by the War Department. The year 1913 will perhaps mark the last pilgrimage of most of the veterans of 1863 to ground made sacred by the heroes of the Blue and Gray on the heights and in the shadow of Lookout Mountain.

young ones. "This," says the London Times, "is not a relic of barbarism, but barbarism surviving in all its pristine cruelty."—Youth's Companion.

Florida Board of Health

The people of Florida have come to have such a strong sentiment of confidence in its State Board of Health that a threat of impending epidemic has few fears for them. They believe that however great the danger, this board will ward it off somehow, just how they don't know, but somehow. When pestilence or smallpox overtakes any community its victims and those in danger appeal to the

Board for help and salvation. They make it the last resort although the organization would prefer to be first. It advocates and works always for prevention and to ward off the necessity of curative assistance.

It is clothed with mighty power in its control of the sanitary situation. Its rules have the force of law without the special enactments of the Legislature, but it prefers to control through reason and persuasion, rather than by arbitrary methods. According to the highest legal authorities in the State, this Board has the authority to enforce compulsory vaccination, but it has never used this power and probably it never will.

Its record since its organization, 25 years ago, has been that of increasing efficiency. This record is familiar to all who have resided in Florida since the board began its existence. Dr. Brunner, of Savannah, one of the highest medical and sanitary authorities in the South, said in a recent public address: "With the exception of Florida, not a State in the South has a Board of Health worthy of the name."

The equipment of the Board at present is ample and well fitted to deal with any acute health problems that may rise. It has three laboratories for the accurate diagnosis of communicable diseases, one at Jacksonville, one at Tampa and the third at Pensacola. It has an able man in charge of the veterinary department, who has two assistants. It has a corps of assistants in the field working for the prevention and suppression of disease among Florida's citizens. It maintains an educational system of lectures and publications by and through which it is gradually bringing about a better understanding of things that make for sickness and health.

As its headquarters the Board occupies its own building at Jacksonville, constructed at a cost of about forty thousand dollars, on a lot donated by the city, which is worth at present market values not far from fifty thousand dollars. The building is of brick and reinforced concrete and is admirably adapted for its purposes. The board also has its own building at Tampa, a brick edifice costing about seventeen thousand dollars on a lot donated by the city. The laboratory of Pensacola is quartered in the municipal building, rent free. The total value of real estate holdings by the board is between \$135,000 and \$140,000.

The Board furnishes free to the citizens of Florida, laboratory examinations, diphtheria antitoxins, typhoid vaccine, tetanus antitoxins for the indigent when used for prophylactic, or preventive purposes, the Pasteur treatment for the indigent, and smallpox vaccine free to everybody who prefers it to the disease itself. It sends out literature free on any and all diseases affecting man or the lower animals; it makes examinations of sanitary conditions everywhere, and on request it gives lectures on public health matters.—Jacksonville Metropolitan.

SCIENTIFIC GARDENING

Efforts to Improve What we Have are of Recent Date

The agriculture department of our federal government has now some thirty thousand vegetable importations which are being "assimilated," while we are to be educated to their use and cultivation. Since the Asiatic civilizations are older than ours by so many centuries, and since some of their peoples have been compelled by necessity as well as lead by the peculiar bent of their minds to experiment with natural productions, it is reasonable to believe that we can find among them many vegetables, if not some animals, that would be valuable to us. Until the wizard Burbank began his investigations we were content to improve the acquisitions we had made in a haphazard sort of way, and even intelligent efforts to improve what we had are but of recent date. While the government may waste many dollars as it did in experiments with tea culture, we may promise ourselves that something more valuable will be found than was implied in the proposition that we eat bamboo shoots or in proposal of a kindred department that sharks become an article of food. We seem now to have narrowed our ideas somewhat and to content ourselves with securing the seeds or roots of vegetables already brought to an acceptable condition at first hand.

Coming into possession of a new world it would seem that the European might have done more than he has accomplished along these lines—the barbarian gave us maize, and we have not troubled ourselves to repeat the experiment with other wild plants that might have proved useful under more intelligent handling; we have accepted the foods we found in use and have seldom troubled ourselves about other wild plants that might have been made useful. We have improved the pecan, for instance, but why not take a fine variety of the scale bark hickory and do something for its fruit? One of these varieties in the South is naturally much finer than the native pecan. Many plants which in a wild state furnished food to the aborigines have been entirely neglected—Florida has many of these which are remarkable both for their nutritive qualities and for their beauty. If the danger of exhaustion really hangs over our land we might adapt its natural productions to more advantage than imported and unacclimated varieties.—Florida Times Union.

'Tis the good old summertime.